

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 6, 2003  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 25, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1343**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Spitzer**

February 21, 2003

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An act to amend Sections 11104, 12509, ~~and 12660~~ 12660, and 12814.6 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1343, as amended, Spitzer. Vehicles: instruction permits ~~and~~: driving instructor licenses: *provisional licensing program*.

(1) Existing law authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue an instruction permit to a physically and mentally qualified person who applies for the permit, is age 15 years or over, and is enrolled in an approved driver education course and, at the same time or during the same semester, enrolled in an approved driver training course.

This bill would delete the authority to issue the instruction permit under the above described circumstances.

(2) Existing law requires driving instructors, as defined, to meet certain requirements.

This bill would authorize the department, at its discretion, to issue a driving school instructor's license, restricted to classroom driver education instruction only, to an applicant who is not physically able to safely operate a motor vehicle and train others in the operation of motor vehicles and who does not hold a valid California driver's license in a

class appropriate for the type of vehicle in which instruction will be given.

(3) *Existing law, the Brady-Jared Teen driver Safety Act of 1997, allows for the issuance of a driver's license to a person at least 16 years of age but under 18 years of age under the provisional licensing program if that person, among other requirements, satisfactorily completes certain education and training requirements.*

*This bill would include, as a driver education and training option under the provisional licensing program, satisfactory completion of an "integrated driver education and training program," which the bill would define.*

(4) *Existing law prohibits a student from taking driver training instruction under the provisional licensing program unless he or she is taking driver education at the same time or has successfully completed driver education.*

*This bill would, instead, allow a student to take driver training instruction only if he or she has successfully completed driver education, except as authorized under the integrated driver education and training program option.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 11104 of the Vehicle Code is amended  
2 to read:

3 11104. (a) Every person, in order to qualify as a driving  
4 instructor, as defined in Section 310.4, shall meet all of the  
5 following requirements:

6 (1) On and after July 1, 1973, have a high school education or  
7 its equivalent and have satisfactorily completed a course in the  
8 teaching of driver education and driver training acceptable to the  
9 department.

10 (2) Within three attempts, pass an examination that the  
11 department requires on traffic laws, safe driving practices,  
12 operation of motor vehicles, and teaching methods and techniques.

13 (3) Be physically able to safely operate a motor vehicle and to  
14 train others in the operation of motor vehicles.



1 (4) Hold a valid California driver's license in a class  
2 appropriate for the type of vehicle in which instruction will be  
3 given.

4 (5) Not be on probation to the department as a negligent  
5 operator.

6 (6) Have a driving record that does not have an outstanding  
7 notice for violating a written promise to appear in court or for  
8 willfully failing to pay a lawfully imposed fine, as provided in  
9 Section 40509.

10 (7) Be 21 years of age or older.

11 (b) If an applicant cannot meet the requirements of paragraphs  
12 (3) and (4) of subdivision (a) because of a physical disability, the  
13 department may, at its discretion, issue the applicant a driving  
14 school instructor's license restricted to classroom driver education  
15 instruction only.

16 (c) The qualifying requirements referred to in this section shall  
17 be met within one year from the date of application for a license,  
18 or a new application, examination, and a fee shall be required.

19 SEC. 2. Section 12509 of the Vehicle Code is amended to  
20 read:

21 12509. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (f) of  
22 Section 12514, the department, for good cause, may issue an  
23 instruction permit to any physically and mentally qualified person  
24 who meets one of the following requirements and who applies to  
25 the department for an instruction permit:

26 (1) Is age 15 years and 6 months or over and has successfully  
27 completed approved courses in automobile driver education and  
28 driver training as provided in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of  
29 Section 12814.6.

30 (2) Is age 15 years and 6 months or over and has successfully  
31 completed an approved course in automobile driver education and  
32 is taking driver training as provided in paragraph (3) of  
33 subdivision (a) of Section 12814.6.

34 ~~(3) Is over the age of 17 years and 6 months.~~

35 ~~(4)~~

36 (3) *Is age 15 years and 6 months and enrolled and participating*  
37 *in an integrated driver education program as provided in*  
38 *subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section*  
39 *12814.6.*

1 (4) Is over the age of 16 years and is applying for a restricted  
2 driver's license pursuant to Section 12814.7.

3 (5) *Is over the age of 17 years and 6 months.*

4 (b) The applicant shall qualify for and be issued an instruction  
5 permit within 12 months from the date of the application.

6 (c) An instruction permit issued pursuant to subdivision (a)  
7 shall entitle the applicant to operate a vehicle, subject to the  
8 limitations imposed by this section and any other provisions of  
9 law, upon the highways for a period not exceeding 24 months from  
10 the date of the application.

11 (d) Except as provided in Section 12814.6, any person, while  
12 having in his or her immediate possession a valid permit issued  
13 pursuant to paragraphs (1) to (3), inclusive, of subdivision (a), may  
14 operate a motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle or a motorized  
15 bicycle, when accompanied by, and under the immediate  
16 supervision of, a California licensed driver with a valid license of  
17 the appropriate class, 18 years of age or over whose driving  
18 privilege is not on probation. Except as provided in subdivision  
19 (e), an accompanying licensed driver at all times shall occupy a  
20 position within the driver's compartment that would enable the  
21 accompanying licensed driver to assist the person in controlling  
22 the vehicle as may be necessary to avoid a collision and to provide  
23 immediate guidance in the safe operation of the vehicle.

24 (e) Any person while having in his or her immediate possession  
25 a valid permit issued pursuant to paragraphs (1) to (3), inclusive,  
26 of subdivision (a), who is age 15 years and 6 months or over and  
27 who has successfully completed approved courses in automobile  
28 education and driver training as provided in paragraph (3) of  
29 subdivision (a) of Section 12814.6, and any person while having  
30 in his or her immediate possession a valid permit issued pursuant  
31 to subdivision (a) who is age 17 years and 6 months or over, may,  
32 in addition to operating a motor vehicle pursuant to subdivision  
33 (d), also operate a motorcycle or a motorized bicycle, except that  
34 the person shall not operate a motorcycle or a motorized bicycle  
35 during hours of darkness, shall stay off any freeways that have full  
36 control of access and no crossings at grade and shall not carry any  
37 passenger except an instructor licensed under Chapter 1  
38 (commencing with Section 11100) of Division 5 of this code or a  
39 qualified instructor as defined in Section 18252.2 of the Education  
40 Code.

(f) Any person while having in his or her immediate possession a valid permit issued pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (a), may only operate a government-owned motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle or a motorized bicycle, when taking the driver training instruction administered by the California National Guard as required by paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 21814.7.

(g) The department may also issue an instruction permit to a person who has been issued a valid driver's license to authorize the person to obtain driver training instruction and to practice that instruction in order to obtain another class of driver's license or an endorsement.

(h) The department may further restrict permits issued under subdivision (a) as it may determine to be appropriate to assure the safe operation of a motor vehicle by the permittee.

SEC. 3. Section 12660 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

12660. (a) The department may establish a program authorizing a driving school licensed under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 11100) of Division 5 to issue a student license to operate a class 3 vehicle to any applicant 15 years of age or older, subject to the conditions specified in subdivision (d).

(b) The department may charge any driving school participating in the program a fee not to exceed two dollars (\$2) per applicant to recover the department's cost in establishing and monitoring the program. The fee that a participating school may charge an applicant for a student license may not exceed the fee that the department charges the school for the license.

(c) The department may remove a driving school from the program if the department determines that the school has issued a student license fraudulently, or has otherwise not followed the requirements of the program. This fraudulent conduct may result in cause for suspension or revocation of the driving school license.

(d) (1) Applicants shall meet the qualification standards specified in regulations adopted by the department pursuant to Section 12661. The student license application shall be accompanied by a statement signed by the parents or guardian, or person having custody of the minor, consenting to the issuance of a student license to the applicant.

(2) No licensed driving school may issue a student license to any applicant under the age of 17 years and 6 months unless that

1 applicant shows proof of satisfactory completion of an approved  
2 course in driver education, pursuant to standards specified in  
3 paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 12814.6.

4 (e) A driving school owner or an independent instructor  
5 licensed under Section 11105.5 shall maintain liability insurance  
6 for bodily injury or property damage caused by the use of a motor  
7 vehicle in driving instruction, and for the liability of the driving  
8 school, the instructor, and the student, in accordance with Section  
9 11103.

10 (f) The department shall submit a report to the Legislature on  
11 the progress of the program established under subdivision (a)  
12 within two years after the program is implemented. The report  
13 shall include, but not be limited to, an analysis of the costs and  
14 benefits of the program and shall include recommendations by the  
15 department.

16 (g) The director may terminate the program at any time the  
17 department determines that continued operation of the program  
18 would have an adverse effect on traffic safety. The finding upon  
19 which the termination is based shall be reported to the Legislature  
20 within 30 days following termination of the program.

21 *SEC. 4. Section 12814.6 of the Vehicle Code is amended to*  
22 *read:*

23 12814.6. (a) Except as provided in Section 12814.7, ~~any~~ a  
24 driver's license issued to a person at least 16 years of age but under  
25 18 years of age shall be issued pursuant to the provisional licensing  
26 program contained in this section. The program shall consist of all  
27 of the following components:

28 (1) Upon application for an original license, the applicant shall  
29 be issued an instruction permit pursuant to Section 12509. A  
30 person who has in his or her immediate possession a valid permit  
31 issued pursuant to Section 12509 may operate a motor vehicle,  
32 other than a motorcycle or motorized bicycle, only when the  
33 person is either taking the driver training instruction referred to in  
34 paragraph (3) or practicing that instruction, provided the person is  
35 accompanied by, and is under the immediate supervision of, a  
36 California licensed driver 25 years of age or older whose driving  
37 privilege is not on probation. The age requirement of this  
38 paragraph does not apply if the licensed driver is the parent,  
39 spouse, or guardian of the permitholder or is a licensed or certified  
40 driving instructor.

(2) The person shall hold an instruction permit for not less than six months prior to applying for a provisional driver's license.

(3) The person shall have complied with one of the following:

(A) Satisfactory completion of approved courses in automobile driver education and driver training maintained pursuant to provisions of the Education Code in any secondary school of California, or equivalent instruction in a secondary school of another state.

(B) *Satisfactory completion of an integrated driver education and training program that is approved by the department and conducted by a driving instructor licensed under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 11100) of Division 5. The program shall utilize segmented modules, whereby a portion of the educational instruction is provided by, and then reinforced through, specific behind the wheel training before moving to the next phase of driver education and training. The program shall contain a minimum of 30 hours of classroom instruction and six hours of behind the wheel training.*

(C) Satisfactory completion of six hours or more of behind-the-wheel instruction by a driving school or an independent driving instructor licensed under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 11100) of Division 5 and either an accredited course in automobile driver education in any secondary school of California pursuant to provisions of the Education Code or satisfactory completion of equivalent professional instruction acceptable to the department. To be acceptable to the department, the professional instruction shall meet minimum standards to be prescribed by the department, ~~which~~ *and the* standards shall be at least equal to the requirements for driver education and driver training contained in the rules and regulations adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to the Education Code. A person who has complied with this subdivision shall not be required by the governing board of a school district to comply with subparagraph (A) in order to graduate from high school.

~~(C) No student shall~~

(D) *Except as provided under subparagraph (B), a student may not take driver training instruction, unless he or she is taking driver education at the same time or has successfully completed driver education.*



1 (4) The person shall complete 50 hours of supervised driving  
2 practice prior to the issuance of a provisional license, which is in  
3 addition to any other driver training instruction required by law.  
4 Not less than 10 of the required practice hours shall include driving  
5 during darkness, as defined in Section 280. Upon application for  
6 a provisional license, the person shall submit to the department the  
7 certification of a parent, spouse, guardian, or licensed or certified  
8 driving instructor that the applicant has completed the required  
9 amount of driving practice and is prepared to take the department's  
10 driving test. A person without a parent, spouse, guardian, or who  
11 is an emancipated minor, may have a licensed driver 25 years of  
12 age or older or a licensed or certified driving instructor complete  
13 the certification. This requirement does not apply to motorcycle  
14 practice.

15 (5) The person shall successfully complete an examination  
16 required by the department. Before retaking a test, the person shall  
17 wait for not less than one week after failure of the written test and  
18 for not less than two weeks after failure of the driving test.

19 (b) Except as provided in Section 12814.7, the provisional  
20 driver's license shall be subject to all of the following restrictions:

21 (1) Except as specified in paragraph (3), during the first six  
22 months after issuance of a provisional license the licensee ~~shall~~  
23 *may* not do any of the following unless accompanied and  
24 supervised by a licensed driver who is the licensee's parent or  
25 guardian, a licensed driver who is 25 years of age or older, or a  
26 licensed or certified driving instructor:

27 (A) Drive between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m.

28 (B) Transport passengers who are under 20 years of age.

29 (2) During the second six months after issuance of a provisional  
30 license the licensee may transport passengers under the age of 20  
31 years between the hours of 5 a.m. and 12 midnight without  
32 supervision. This driving time restriction ~~shall~~ *may* not modify or  
33 alter any local ordinance that restricts or prohibits cruising during  
34 specified proscribed hours. However, the restriction imposed  
35 under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) shall continue to apply  
36 during this period.

37 (3) A licensee may drive between the hours of 12 midnight and  
38 5 a.m. or transport an immediate family member without being  
39 accompanied and supervised by a licensed driver who is the  
40 licensee's parent or guardian, a licensed driver who is 25 years of



1 age or older, or a licensed or certified driving instructor, in the  
2 following circumstances:

3 (A) Medical necessity of the licensee when reasonable  
4 transportation facilities are inadequate and operation of a vehicle  
5 by a minor is necessary. The licensee shall keep in his or her  
6 possession a signed statement from a physician familiar with the  
7 condition, containing a diagnosis and probable date when  
8 sufficient recovery will have been made to terminate the necessity.

9 (B) Schooling or school-authorized activities of the licensee  
10 when reasonable transportation facilities are inadequate and  
11 operation of a vehicle by a minor is necessary. The licensee shall  
12 keep in his or her possession a signed statement from the school  
13 principal, dean, or school staff member designated by the principal  
14 or dean, containing a probable date that the schooling or  
15 school-authorized activity will have been completed.

16 (C) Employment necessity of the licensee when reasonable  
17 transportation facilities are inadequate and operation of a vehicle  
18 by a minor is necessary. The licensee shall keep in his or her  
19 possession a signed statement from the employer, verifying  
20 employment and containing a probable date that the employment  
21 will have been completed.

22 (D) Necessity of the licensee or the licensee's immediate  
23 family member when reasonable transportation facilities are  
24 inadequate and operation of a vehicle by a minor is necessary to  
25 transport the licensee or the licensee's immediate family member.  
26 The licensee shall keep in his or her possession a signed statement  
27 from a parent or legal guardian verifying the reason and containing  
28 a probable date that the necessity will have ceased.

29 (E) The licensee is an emancipated minor.

30 (c) A law enforcement officer ~~shall~~ *may* not stop a vehicle for  
31 the sole purpose of determining whether the driver is in violation  
32 of the restrictions imposed under subdivision (b).

33 (d) (1) Upon a finding that any licensee has violated paragraph  
34 (1) or (2) of subdivision (b), the court shall impose one of the  
35 following:

36 (A) Not less than eight hours nor more than 16 hours of  
37 community service for a first offense and not less than 16 hours nor  
38 more than 24 hours of community service for a second or  
39 subsequent offense.

1 (B) A fine of not more than thirty-five dollars (\$35) for a first  
2 offense and a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50) for a second  
3 or subsequent offense.

4 (2) If the court orders community service, the court shall retain  
5 jurisdiction until the hours of community service have been  
6 completed.

7 (3) If the hours of community service have not been completed  
8 within 90 days, the court shall impose a fine of not more than  
9 thirty-five dollars (\$35) for a first offense and not more than fifty  
10 dollars (\$50) for a second or subsequent offense.

11 (e) ~~No~~ A conviction of paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (b),  
12 when reported to the department, ~~shall~~ *may not* be disclosed as  
13 otherwise specified in Section 1808 or constitute a violation point  
14 count value pursuant to Section 12810.

15 (f) Any term of restriction or suspension of the driving  
16 privilege imposed on a person pursuant to this subdivision shall  
17 remain in effect until the end of the term even though the person  
18 becomes 18 years of age before the term ends.

19 (1) The driving privilege shall be suspended when the record  
20 of the person shows one or more notifications issued pursuant to  
21 Section 40509 or 40509.5. The suspension shall continue until any  
22 notification issued pursuant to Section 40509 or 40509.5 has been  
23 cleared.

24 (2) A 30-day restriction shall be imposed when a driver's  
25 record shows a violation point count of two or more points in 12  
26 months, as determined in accordance with Section 12810. The  
27 restriction shall require the licensee to be accompanied by a  
28 licensed parent, spouse, guardian, or other licensed driver 25 years  
29 of age or older, except when operating a class M vehicle, or so  
30 licensed, with no passengers aboard.

31 (3) A six-month suspension of the driving privilege and a  
32 one-year term of probation shall be imposed whenever a licensee's  
33 record shows a violation point count of three or more points in 12  
34 months, as determined in accordance with Section 12810. The  
35 terms and conditions of probation shall include, but not be limited  
36 to, both of the following:

37 (A) The person shall violate no law which, if resulting in  
38 conviction, is reportable to the department under Section 1803.

39 (B) The person shall remain free from accident responsibility.

(g) Whenever action by the department under subdivision (f) arises as a result of a motor vehicle accident, the person may, in writing and within 10 days, demand a hearing to present evidence that he or she was not responsible for the accident upon which the action is based. Whenever action by the department is based upon a conviction reportable to the department under Section 1803, the person has no right to a hearing pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 14100) of Chapter 3.

(h) The department shall require ~~any~~ a person whose driving privilege is suspended or revoked pursuant to subdivision (f) to submit proof of financial responsibility as defined in Section 16430. The proof of financial responsibility shall be filed on or before the date of reinstatement following the suspension or revocation. The proof of financial responsibility shall be maintained with the department for three years following the date of reinstatement.

(i) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, the department may issue a distinctive driver's license, ~~which~~ that displays a distinctive color or a distinctively colored stripe or other distinguishing characteristic, to persons at least 16 years of age and older but under 18 years of age, and to persons 18 years of age and older but under 21 years of age, so that the distinctive license feature is immediately recognizable. The features shall clearly differentiate between drivers' licenses issued to persons at least 16 years of age or older but under 18 years of age and to persons 18 years of age or older but under 21 years of age.

~~If~~

(2) *If* changes in the format or appearance of drivers' licenses are adopted pursuant to this subdivision, those changes may be implemented under any new contract for the production of drivers' licenses entered into after the adoption of those changes.

(j) The department shall include, on the face of the provisional driver's license, the original issuance date of the provisional driver's license in addition to any other issuance date.

(k) This section shall be known and may be cited as the Brady-Jared Teen Driver Safety Act of 1997.

O